



## Layla Juma

### BORN

1977 Sharjah, UAE  
Lives and works in Sharjah, UAE

### EDUCATION

2001 B.A. Architectural Engineering, United Arab Emirates University, Al Ain, UAE

### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Layla Juma & Carolin Kropff*, STUDIOSPACE Lange Strasse 31, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2021 *Squaring the Circle*, Aisha Alabbar Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
*Abu Dhabi Art* (Aisha Alabbar Gallery), Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
*Interconnected*, 37<sup>th</sup> Emirates Fine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, UAE
- 2018 *From Barcelona to Abu Dhabi: Works from the MACBA Art Collection in dialogue with the Emirates*, Abu Dhabi Festival in partnership with Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2017 *Portrait of A Nation*, Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation (ADMAF), me Collectors Room Berlin / Stiftung Olbricht, Berlin, Germany  
*And Along Came Polyester*, Athr Art Gallery, Jeddah, KSA  
*Homage Without An Homage*, Julius Baer, Art Dubai, Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, UAE  
*The Art of Nature*, Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation (ADMAF), 14<sup>th</sup> Abu Dhabi Festival, Um Al Emarat Park, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
*Experiences for a Group of Artists*, The College of Fine Arts and Design (CFAD), University of Sharjah, Sharjah, UAE
- 2016 *Portrait of A Nation*, Abu Dhabi Music & Arts Foundation (ADMAF), 13<sup>th</sup> Abu Dhabi Festival, Emirates Palace Gallery, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
Emirates Fine Arts Society Exhibition, Sikka Art Fair, Al Fahidi District, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 First gathering for Gulf Fine Artists Union, Doha, Qatar  
*There Are Too Many Walls But Not Enough Bridges*, ORYX Foundation, Kunst(Zeug)Haus Rapperswil Museum, Switzerland
- 2014 *Turning Point*, Tashkeel, Dubai, UAE  
8<sup>th</sup> Fine Arts Exhibition, the Cultural Center in collaboration with EFAS, Umm Al Quwain, UAE
- 2013 *Empty 10*, 1x1 Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
*Emirati Expressions: Realised*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- 2012 *MinD – Dubai Contemporary*, DUCTAC, Mall of the Emirates, Dubai, UAE  
30<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, UAE
- 2011 29<sup>th</sup> Emirates Fine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Sharjah, UAE
- 2010 *Vis Roboris*, AB Gallery, Lucerne, Switzerland
- 2009 28<sup>th</sup> Emirates Fine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Sharjah, UAE
- 2008 27<sup>th</sup> Emirates Fine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Sharjah, UAE  
*Season of Art*, The Flying House, DIFC, Dubai, UAE  
Greek Art Fair, Al Bastakiya, Dubai, UAE  
*Wonder*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Singapore Biennale, Singapore
- 2007 *Dubai Dubai*, Total Arts Gallery, Dubai, UAE
- 2006 *Beauty and the Beast*, Emirates Fine Arts Society with Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah, UAE  
*Miniatures Arts Exhibition*, Kuwait Arts Association, Hawally, Kuwait  
*10th Cairo International Biennial*, Cairo, Egypt



- 2005 *Window*, Total Arts Gallery, Dubai, UAE  
*Women & Art Global Perspective*, Sharjah, UAE  
*Youth Flashes*, The French Cultural League, Dubai, UAE  
The UAE Cultural Week, Baku, Azerbaijan
- 2004 23<sup>rd</sup> Emirates Fine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, UAE
- 2003 22<sup>nd</sup> Emirates Fine Arts Society Annual Exhibition, Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, UAE
- 2002 Summer Course Exhibitions of Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE  
*Dubai Youth Theatre Exhibition*, Sharjah, UAE

## PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2017 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE
- 2015 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE
- 2014 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE
- 2013 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE
- 2012 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE
- 2012-11 Participant, Foreign Residency Program of the Emirates Foundation, Cite Internationale des Arts, Hotel de Ville, Paris, France
- 2011 Designer, 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Catalogue of Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
- 2011-10 Curator, 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
- 2010-09 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE
- 2009 Participant, Foreign Residency Program of the Emirates Foundation, Hangar Visual Arts Production Center, Barcelona, Spain  
Executive Editor, UAE Fine Art Society Magazine, Al Tashkeel #20 and Al Tashkeel # 21, Sharjah, UAE  
Author, Al Tashkeel Magazine # 20, Sharjah, UAE
- 2007 Author, Al Tashkeel Magazine # 19, Sharjah, UAE
- 2006 Curatorial Assistant, 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of the Emirates Fine Arts Society Silver Jubilee, Sharjah, UAE  
Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting, Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE  
Dubai Police Competition for Children's photography, Dubai, UAE
- 2006-05 Journalist, Al Khaleej Newspaper, Sharjah, UAE  
Author, Emirates Fine Arts Society Catalogues for the 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Silver Jubilee Exhibition, Sharjah, UAE
- 2005 Member, Jury of Graphic Design Competition at GITEX Exhibition, Dubai, UAE  
Author, Al Tashkeel Magazine # 18, Sharjah, UAE
- 2004 Member, Jury Committee, Sheikha Latifa Bint Mohammad bin Rashid Award for Painting Dubai Women's Association, Dubai, UAE  
Dubai Police Competition for Children's Photography, Dubai, UAE

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2010 3rd prize in Tawasol 1 Exhibition, Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
- 2005 2nd prize, Emirates Lady Award, Sharjah, UAE
- 2004 3rd prize in The Annual Exhibition. Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE



## AFFILIATIONS

Since 2004	Administrative Member of Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
Since 2002	Member of Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
Since 1999	Member of Youth Theatre, Dubai, UAE
2017-14	Member of Engineering Society, UAE
2017-14	Administrative member, Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UA
2014-12	Secretary General, Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
2010-08	Secretary General, Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
2008-06	Public Relations Officer, Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE
2006-04	Media Officer, Emirates Fine Arts Society, Sharjah, UAE

## COLLECTIONS

ADMAF Art Collection, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
Al Dar Hotel & Hospitality, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
Art Towada Center, Nanjo & Associates, Aomori, Japan  
Barjeel Art Foundation, Sharjah UAE  
Environment Agency, Abu Dhabi, UAE  
JP Morgan Chase Bank New York, Dubai branch, Dubai, UAE  
Sharjah Child Friendly Office, Sharjah, UAE  
Ministry of Presidential Affairs, Abu Dhabi, UAE



## Biography

**Layla Juma** (b. Sharjah, 1977) is a multidisciplinary artist from the Emirates. An artist as well as architectural engineer, Layla is interested in compositions of visible and felt connections. Experimenting with abstract concepts and physical forms, she explores links between elements of being. Her work is often open-ended yet balanced, where each composition presents a layer of traced links.

A member of the Emirates Fine Arts Society since the early 2000s, Layla is among the third-generation of Emirati artists and takes inspiration from prolific UAE conceptual pioneers – including Hassan Sharif and Mohammed Kazem.

In 2021, Juma had a solo exhibition titled *Squaring the Circle* at Aisha Alabbar Gallery, Dubai, UAE. She participated in exhibitions in the UAE and internationally, including Layla Juma & Carolin Kropff, STUDIOSPACE Lange Strasse 31, Frankfurt, Germany (2023); *From Barcelona to Abu Dhabi: Works from the MACBA Art Collection in dialogue with the Emirates*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi (2018); *Portrait of a Nation*, Me Collectors Room, Berlin, Germany (2017); *There Are Too Many Walls But Not Enough Bridges*, Kunst(Zeug)Haus, Rapperswil-Jona, Switzerland (2015); *Emirati Expressions III: Realised*, Manarat Al Saadiyat, Abu Dhabi, UAE (2014); *Mind - Dubai Contemporary*, DUCTAC's Gallery of Light, Dubai, UAE (2012); Singapore Biennial (2008); and Cairo Biennial (2006).

Her works are in several collections in the UAE, including ADMAF, Environment Agency, Al Dar Hotel & Hospitality, and the Ministry of Presidential Affairs in Abu Dhabi; Barjeel Art Foundation, and Sharjah Child Friendly Office in Sharjah; JP Morgan Chase Bank in Dubai; and internationally in Art Towada Center, in Aomori, Japan.